

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Office of National Estimates
Conference with [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
(16 July 1953)

25X1A9a

[REDACTED] is very well satisfied with OER support on economic matters. It is much more prompt and adequate than that of the other intelligence agencies. The support, particularly from State (OIR) on political matters and on economic subjects other than in the Soviet Bloc (for which OER turns to OER), frequently is delayed and unsatisfactory.

25X1A9a [REDACTED] noted that OER reports sometimes protest too much the inadequacy of data and limitations of the estimates. I suggested the possibility of indicating, separately, where appropriate, that part of an estimate which is reasonably firm from the part which is more highly conjectural, or to give the most reasonable range of values rather than to show a firm figure when much of the basic information is highly conjectural.

25X1A9a [REDACTED] agreed that such a presentation would be more helpful than an arbitrary but uncertain figure accompanied by an apology as to its inaccuracy.

~~SECRET~~